

JULY / AUGUST 2020

# Candidate Connection



*What topics would you like to read about in the next issue of Candidate Connection? The Society would like your feedback and suggestions in order to provide you with the most relevant resources and information. Please send your feedback to [communications@sts.org](mailto:communications@sts.org).*

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## Submit Abstracts, Proposals for Educational Events

Build your professional portfolio by applying to present your work during these upcoming STS educational programs:

**Annual Meeting:** Just a few days are left to submit abstracts for the [STS 57th Annual Meeting](#), scheduled January 30-February 2. Residents are eligible for two special honors—the STS President's Award and the Thoracic Surgery Directors Association Benson R. Wilcox Award. These high-profile awards recognize outstanding research that has the potential to significantly impact the field. When [submitting your abstract](#), select whether you wish to apply for each award.

STS also is accepting proposals for the [Tech-Con Shark Tank](#) session. Proposals should explore new cardiothoracic surgical technologies, off-label, or outside-the-box techniques that address complex problems in the specialty.

The deadline for both Annual Meeting and Tech-Con submissions is **Tuesday, August 11, 2020**.

**Critical Care Conference:** The deadline also is approaching to submit abstracts for the [17th Annual Perioperative and Critical Care Conference](#), September 24-26, 2020. This virtual event will enhance your knowledge and expertise in

cardiovascular and thoracic critical care and enhanced recovery after surgery. Also, new for 2020, some sessions will be dedicated to COVID-19 and disaster management. The deadline to [submit abstracts](#) is **Monday, August 17, 2020**, at 3:00 p.m. CT.

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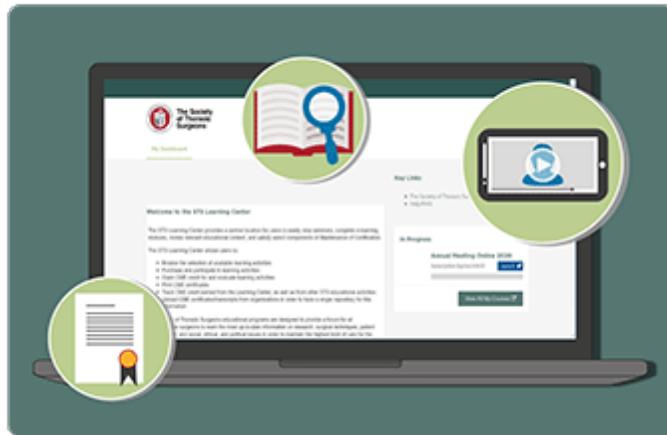
## Check out Diversity and Inclusion Resources

A new [Diversity and Inclusion Resources page](#) that provides informative materials related to diversity, inclusion, and equity in cardiothoracic surgery recently was added to the STS website. The page includes peer-reviewed articles, member news, and links to relevant organizations. Also featured on the page are important STS resources such as the recent “In the News—A Surgeon’s View” article by Luis A. Godoy, MD, “[The Importance of Diversity and Inclusion in Cardiothoracic Surgery](#).” In the article, Dr. Godoy reflects on social disparities in health care and the lack of ethnic diversity in some medical specialties. He also addresses the percentages of medical graduates by race and ethnicity and offers insight on recruitment and retention of minorities.

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## Maximize Your Experience with Upgraded STS Learning Center

The new and improved [STS Learning Center](#) is now available. This enhanced educational platform offers improved navigation, functionality, and searchability for a better overall user experience. You easily can view webinars, complete e-learning modules, review educational content, and much more. Annual Meeting Online and the Thoracic Surgery Curriculum are on the new platform, ready for viewing. Additional features and activities will be available later this fall. To help familiarize yourself with the new platform, review the [Getting Started Guide for Residents](#).



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## Apply for TSF Awards

The Thoracic Surgery Foundation (TSF), the Society's charitable arm, is now accepting applications for its [2021 awards](#). The awards, which include a variety of grant offerings in research, education, leadership, and surgical outreach, can help expand your clinical and research abilities, opening the door to many career opportunities. Residents are eligible for the following:

- [Braunwald Research Fellowship](#)
- [TSF Resident Research Fellowship](#)
- [TSF/STSA Resident Research Award](#)
- [Michael J. Davidson Structural Heart Fellowship](#)
- [Carolyn E. Reed Traveling Fellowship](#)
- [Robert L. Replogle Traveling Fellowship](#)
- [International Medical Volunteer Scholarship](#)
- **New!** [Saha Scholarship for the 2021 STS Annual Meeting](#)

The deadline for most awards is **Tuesday, September 15, 2020**. For more information, contact [Priscilla Kennedy](#).



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## Listen to Podcast Episodes, View Webinars

Take advantage of STS podcast episodes, videos, and social media outreach that are available to support you in the early stages of your career:

**Podcast episode:** In the latest episode of “Beyond the Abstract,” Mara B. Antonoff, MD, Jessica G.Y. Luc, MD, and Jason J. Han, MD, joined Thomas K. Varghese Jr., MD, MS, to discuss their article in *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery*, “[Does Tweeting Improve Citations? One-Year Results from the TSSMN Prospective Randomized Trial.](#)” They examine how social media has become an “inescapable” part of academic life and its role in the academic publishing process. [Listen to the podcast episode](#) on the STS website.

**Videos:** The “STS Summer Series” is a collection of biweekly, hour-long free webinars featuring presentations and discussions on a variety of important topics, including:

- [Economic Impact of COVID and Implications for the Future of Cardiothoracic Surgery](#)

- [How I Learned Robotic Cardiac Surgery](#)

The webinars are broadcast live via Zoom and Facebook biweekly on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. ET. If you miss a live webinar, you can watch the [video](#) or listen to it as a [podcast](#).

**TweetChat:** A TweetChat on Thursday, August 20 at 8:00 p.m. ET will focus on carving out time for research. David D. Odell, MD, MMSc ([@DavidDOdell](#)) will moderate the discussion. Monitor the conversation on [sts.org](#) or Twitter, and use **#CTCareers** to participate.

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## Self-Nominations for Leadership Positions Open in September

If you are interested in honing your leadership skills and enhancing your career development, consider volunteering for a position within the STS governance structure. The [self-nomination process opens in September](#). To view a full listing of the Society's leadership bodies, visit the [Committees, Council Operating Boards, and Workforces page](#) on the STS website.

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## Is It Time to Upgrade Your STS Membership?

If you are within 2 years of completing your cardiothoracic surgery training and becoming board certified, you must upgrade your membership to Active or International, according to the [STS Bylaws](#). Also, Pre-Candidate members should upgrade to Candidate Membership within 1 year of starting a cardiothoracic surgery residency. It's important to note that there is no application fee for these changes. You can upgrade by logging into your [STS account](#). If you have any questions, contact [STS Member Services](#) or call 312-202-5800.

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**The Society  
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